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ABSTRACT

A comparison of grammatical, lexical, and phonological differences between Spanish and Portuguese that resulted from a study of the two languages' mutual intelligibility is presented as a convenient list of items that assumes a basic language knowledge in the user. The information is presented in five sections: (1) phonological contrasts (phonemic and phonetic contrasts, suprasegmental differences, and rhythmic differences); (2) morphology (verb systems, pronouns, contractions, determiners, and plural formation); (3) syntax (questions, object pronouns, prepositions, main verb + gerund/infinitive constructions, the Portuguese future subjunctive and personal infinitive, and other syntactic contrasts); (4) usage (pronouns of address, object pronouns and their paraphrases, uses of the article, answers to yes/no questions, tense usages, and ser/estar); and (5) lexicon (false cognates, gender contrasts, and recognition of cognates). (MSE)

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A CHECKLIST OF PHONOLOGICAL, GRAMMATICAL AND LEXICAL
CONTRASTS BETWEEN SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE

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KEY TO PHONETIC NOTATION

All phonetic symbols used are similar to the spelling conventions of Spanish, with the following exceptions:

- a open back unrounded vowel like English father, further back than the a of Spanish noted /a/.
- ɛ half-open front unrounded vowel, like English dress.
- ɔ half-open back rounded vowel, like Portuguese bola.
- ə open central unrounded vowel, like second syllable of Portuguese para.
- ʊ lowered close back rounded vowel, like English foot.
- tʃ or ɟ voiceless palatal affricate, usually spelled ch in English and Spanish
- dʒ or ʝ voiced palatal affricate, as in English judge.
- ʃ or ʝ voiced palatal fricative, usually spelled sh in English, ch in Portuguese.
- ʒ or ʒ voiced palatal fricative, as in English pleasure leisure or Portuguese junio.
- θ voiceless dental fricative, as in English thin, Castilian Spanish cinco.
- x voiceless velar fricative, like the Spanish jota.
- R voiced uvular fricative, somewhat like "French R."
- ŋ velar nasal, as in English thing, sing.
- ɬ palatal lateral, usually spelled ll in Castilian Spanish, lh in Portuguese.

~ indicates nasality on vowels

FOREWORD

This checklist is the result of a literature search undertaken in connection with a study of the mutual comprehensibility of Spanish and Portuguese (Thogmartin and Courteau, in preparation). It was originally compiled to help in the development of the matched comprehension tests used in that study (see Courteau and Thogmartin, forthcoming, for the text of the tests). We felt that the checklist would also be useful to teachers, textbook writers and others interested in comparing the two languages, so we decided to publish it separately.

This is not intended to be a rigorous formal description of the contrasts between the two languages, but a convenient and easily usable list of items based on the available literature and our own observations. It assumes a basic knowledge of both languages on the part of the reader, and is designed basically to help the user put into focus the things he already knows in an unstructured, informal way.

Most of the material we surveyed was constructed on the assumption that the reader was more familiar with Spanish than with Portuguese, so this assumption is inevitably reflected in our selection and arrangement of items. We believe that this arrangement will not diminish the checklist's usefulness for someone interested in teaching Spanish to speakers of Portuguese.

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I. PHONOLOGICAL CONTRASTS

Feldman 1967 is the best single source for a study of the phonological systems of the two languages. Richman 1965, Ulsch 1971 and Azevedo 1981 also have valuable observations which have been drawn on here.

A. Phonemic contrasts

1. Vowels

a. Portuguese distinguishes between close /e/ and /o/ on the one hand and open /ɛ/ and /ɔ/ on the other in stressed syllables. Portuguese open /ɛ/ and /ɔ/ often, but not always, correspond to Spanish ie /je/ and ue /we/. Thus Spanish speaker not only has to learn which words contain the open vowels but also to produce vowel sounds which are more open than the checked-syllable versions of /e/ and /o/ of Spanish.

b. Portuguese nasal vowels /ɪ̃ ẽ ã õ ũ/ are distinct phonemes, while in Spanish nasal vowels occur only as allophonic variants of oral vowels in front of nasal consonants. Nasal diphthongs /aẽ, am, ãõ, õĩ, ũ, ɪ̃, ẽ/ also have no counterpart in Spanish.

2. Consonants

a. Portuguese contrasts /b/ and /v/, while in Spanish they are allophones of the same phoneme.

b. Portuguese contrasts /s/ and /z/, while in Spanish they are allophones of the same phoneme.

c. Portuguese contrasts ch /ʃ/ and j /ʒ/, which do not exist as separate phonemes in Spanish. The sound [ʃ] can occur as an allophone or diaphone of /ʃ/ in some varieties of Spanish, while [ʒ] is a possible variant of /ʃ/.

B. Phonetic contrasts

The exact degree of phonetic contrast between Spanish and Portuguese depends on the dialect of each chosen for comparison. If the frequently-taught Carioca variety of Portuguese is contrasted with Castilian Spanish, there are considerable differences: Carioca's lack of /θ/, the raising of unstressed /e/ and /o/ to /i/ and /u/ and the palatalization of /t/ and /d/ to /tʃ/ and /dʒ/ before /i/, and a different /s/ make it quite different from Castilian. On the other hand, if one compares a variety of Spanish which distinguishes /i/ and /j/, but merges /s/ and /θ/, with a variety of Portuguese that does not raise unstressed /e/ and /o/, does not palatalize /t/ and /d/, and uses an apical trill for rr, the degree of resemblance is greatly increased. So any course based on teaching one language to speakers of the other will have to take into account both the variety of the first language spoken by the prospective students and the dialect which is to be taught. The following remarks give an overview of the difficulties which may arise from time to time.

1. Vowels

- a. Portuguese unaccented / / and nasal /a/ for Spanish /a/.
- b. Portuguese back [a] before /l/ in contrast with Spanish /a/.
- c. In varieties of Portuguese that raise unstressed /e/ and /o/ to /i/ and /u/, there may be metaphone of preceding vowels as a result: novo /novu/ then has a higher stressed vowel than nova /n va/.

2. Consonants

- a. Portuguese /l/ is realized as /w/ in syllable-final position, while Spanish final /l/ is apico-alveolar.

- b. Spanish / $\tilde{n}$ / has considerable contact between the blade of the tongue and the top of the hard palate. Its Portuguese counterpart can often be heard with little or no contact, more like a nasalized semivowel [j̃]. This may be because part of the energy of the / $\tilde{n}$ / is distributed over the preceding vowel, causing nasalization. There is not as much energy left for closure.
- c. Portuguese /rr/ occurs before consonants, while in Spanish only /r/ can occur in that position.
- d. In Portuguese, final nasal consonants are often reduced to a brief velar constriction (Azevedo 1981, 77).

bem baⁱⁿ (Peninsular) beⁱⁿ (Brazilian)

3. Consonants: possible dialect contrasts.

- a. Brazilian Portuguese does not fricativize voiced intervocalic consonants: all dialects of Spanish, as well as Continental Portuguese, have [β θ ð] between vowels, where Brazilian Portuguese has [bdg].
- b. In Carioca, /t/ and /d/ are palatalized to /tʃ/ and /dʒ/ before /i/ and raised unstressed /e/. In Paulista, they can be palatalized to /tʰ/ and /dʒ/ in the same environment (Azevedo 1981, 31).
- c. In Carioca, syllable-final /s/ is realized as a [s̺] when the next syllable starts with a voiceless consonant and voices to [z̺] when starts with a voiced one. Before pause, there is often a y-like glide between the vowel and the following /s/, pronounced [ʃ].

Example:

The voicing of a voiceless /s/ to [z] occurs in Spanish only before a voiced consonant in the next syllable, but in Portuguese it occurs before a vowel as well.

d. Portuguese /rr/ can be realized as a voiced apical trill similar to that of Spanish, or as a voiceless apical trill [r̥], a voiceless velar fricative which could possibly be confused with the Spanish jota [x], a voiced uvular trill [R], a voiceless uvular trill [R̥], or a glottal fricative [h] (Azevedo 1981, 37). It is not clear from the literature what the geographic distribution of these allophones is.

4. Consonant differences in Spanish dialects with potential for interference with Portuguese pronunciation.

a. The disappearance of Spanish intervocalic /d/[ð] in words ending in -ado in Spanish has no Portuguese counterpart. e.g. (Colloquial Spanish amao 'amado'; cansao 'cansado'; etc.)

b. Like New World Spanish, Portuguese does not have the Castilian distinction between /s/ and /θ/, spelled c, z. cf. (Castilian casar, cazar).

c. Syllable-final /s/ tends to disappear or be replaced by [h] in many Spanish dialects, but not in Portuguese. e.g. (Colloquial Spanish loh religiosoh 'los religiosos').

d. The distinction between lh [ʎ] and y [j] is usually maintained in Portuguese, while that between ll and y in Spanish has largely disappeared, except in conservative Castilian speech.

e. The tendency of y [j] toward a hard affricate sound [tʃ] in the Spanish of Argentina and neighboring countries has no equivalent in Portuguese.

C. Suprasegmental differences

Little work has been done on suprasegmental or prosodic contrasts in the two languages. The nature of juncture seems to be the same in both Spanish

and Portuguese (Feldman 1967, 45). There is no extensive study of the intonation of Portuguese, according to Azevedo (1981, 98), thus inhibiting comparative studies.

D. Rhythmic differences

Several factors alter the rhythm of Portuguese by devoicing or deleting unstressed vowels, thus giving it a rhythm more like French than like Spanish:

1. European Portuguese and some Brazilian varieties drop unstressed /a/ (Ulsh 1971, 2).
2. Unstressed vowels tend to disappear before a stressed vowel in some varieties of Portuguese (Azevedo 1981, 86).
3. Final unaccented /i/ from raised /e/ tends to devoice and even disappear (Azevedo 1981, 76).

II. MORPHOLOGY

For a detailed account of the contrasts in morphology between Spanish and Portuguese, see Richman 1965, 190-207, on which this section is based.

A. Verb system

1. General observations

- a. Spanish uses haber to form perfect tenses. Portuguese usually uses ter (cf. Spanish tener), although haver is still occasionally used in the literary language.
- b. Portuguese has a future subjunctive; Spanish does not.
- c. Portuguese retains the simple pluperfect descended from Latin alongside the compound pluperfect, while in Spanish the Latin pluperfect has become an alternate form of the imperfect subjunctive.
- d. Portuguese has distinctive endings for the -ar, -er, and -ir verbs in the preterite, pluperfect indicative, future subjunctive

and gerund, while the endings of the -er and -ir verbs in the equivalent tenses have merged in Spanish (Richman 1965, 204).

e. Portuguese has a conjugation with infinitive endings in -or, consisting of por and its compounds.

2. Specific contrasts

a. Infinitive: Spanish has several verbs in -ir whose Portuguese equivalents belong to the -er group:

<u>Spanish</u>	<u>Portuguese</u>
batir	bater
decir	dizer
elegir	eleger
morir	morrer
ocurrir	ocorrer
rendir	render
vivir	viver

But the opposite is also possible:

caer	cair
------	------

b. Present tense:

i. Contrasting forms of ser are a source of possible confusion:

<u>Spanish</u>	<u>Portuguese</u>	
eres	es	second person
es	é	third person

ii. Some first singular forms of Spanish that end in -y have Portuguese equivalents that end in -u:

<u>Spanish</u>	<u>Portuguese</u>
voy	vou
estoy	estou
doy	dou
soy	sou

- iii. Portuguese has first singular forms with g where Spanish has various consonants:

<u>Spanish</u>	<u>Portuguese</u>
hago	faço
pido	peço
mido	meço
oigo	ouço

- iv. Portuguese has -nh- in some first person verbs where Spanish has -ng-:

<u>Spanish</u>	<u>Portuguese</u>
pongo	ponho
tengo	tenho
vengo	venho

- v. Other first person singular contrasts are harder to classify:

<u>Spanish</u>	<u>Portuguese</u>
pierdo	perco
puedo	posso

- vi. Some third person singular Spanish verbs ending in -e contrast with Portuguese equivalents, which have just the verb stem:

<u>Spanish</u>	<u>Portuguese</u>
dice	diz
hace	faz
quiere	quer
yace	jaz

- vii. Eight Spanish second person plural verbs ending in -is, -ís, -éis, have Portuguese equivalents ending in -des.

<u>Spanish</u>	<u>Portuguese</u>
creáis	credes
leéis	ledes
poneis	pondes
reís	rides
tenéis	tendes
vais	ides (different stem)
veis	vedes
veníis	vindes

- viii. In the third person plural, four Spanish verbs ending in -an or -on have Portuguese counterparts ending in -ão instead of the expected -am.

<u>Spanish</u>	<u>Portuguese</u>
dan	dão
están	estão
han	hão
son	são

- c. Preterite: To distinguish between the first person singular and the third person singular of some verbs. Spanish uses endings while Portuguese uses contrasts in the root vowel.

<u>Spanish</u>	<u>Portuguese</u>
estuve-estuvo	estive-estive
hice-hizo	fiz-fez
pude-pudo	pude-pôde
tuve-tuvo	tive-teve

d. Imperfect: Some imperfect verb stems in Portuguese contrast with their Spanish equivalents:

<u>Spanish</u>	<u>Portuguese</u>
iba	ia
ponía	punha
tenía	tinha
veía	via
veníá	vinha

e. Future: Some Spanish future indicatives which lose the infinitive stem vowel and make other adjustments have Portuguese equivalents which are regular:

<u>Spanish</u>	<u>Portuguese</u>
podremos	poderemos
pondremos	poremos
querremos	quereremos
sabremos	saberemos
saldremos	sairemos
tendremos	teremos
valdremos	valeremos
vendremos	viremos

The opposite is also possible:

traeremos	tralemos
-----------	----------

f. Portuguese tenses not found in Spanish: the future subjunctive and the conjugated infinitive.

i. Future subjunctive: This tense is formed on the basis of the first person singular of the preterite to which the following endings are added:

disse + r	disse + rmos
disse + res	disse + rdes
disse + r	disse + rem

The future subjunctive is used in future adverbial clauses:

Discuti-lo-emos depois que ele vier.

Quando eles chegarem, iremos ao cinema.

For further discussion of the uses of the future subjunctive, see
III. E.

ii. Conjugated infinitive: The conjugated infinitive or personal infinitive is formed when endings similar to those of the future subjunctive are added to the infinitive.

dizer	dizermos
dizeres	dizerdes
dizer	dizerem

The conjugated infinitive is used with preposition + infinitive combinations such as:

Portuguese: Para podermos produzir, temos que ter boas condições.

Spanish: Para poder producir, tenemos que tener buenas condiciones.

Portuguese: Antes de saírem limparão a casa.

Spanish: Antes de salir limpiarán la casa.

In Spanish the same infinitive form is used for all persons.

For further information about the use of the personal infinitive, see III. F.

g. Past participle: Five regular Spanish participles have double equivalents in Portuguese; forms like the Spanish ones are used as adjectives, but special short forms are used as verb forms.

<u>Spanish</u>	<u>Portuguese</u>
aceptado	aceito
entregado	entregue

gastado	gasto
ganado	ganho
pagado	pago

B. Pronouns

1. Personal pronouns:

- a. Subject pronouns: The Spanish subject pronouns nosotros, vosotros contrast with the Portuguese nós, vós, which might be mistaken for the object pronouns before a potentially reflexive verb.
- b. Object pronouns: While in Spanish object pronouns follow strict rules of word order, the rules of Portuguese object pronoun placement are much more flexible and varied.

In Spanish, object pronouns precede all conjugated forms of the verb except for affirmative commands. They follow infinitives, gerunds, and affirmative commands. The indirect pronoun precedes the direct: They are not affected morphologically by their syntactic position in the sentence.

Dímelo. No me lo digas.

Tú no se lo quieres decir. Tú no quieres decírselo.

Tú nos lo estás diciendo. Estás diciéndonoslo.

In Portuguese, object pronouns normally follow the verb unless attracted to proclitic position (the position in front of the verb) by a subject pronoun, a conjunction, or a negative particle.

Disse-me que queria ver-me.

Ele me mandou que te falasse.

Não te conto, não.

The third person direct object pronouns undergo certain morphophonemic changes when directly attached after a verb or indirect

object pronoun. These changes depend on the ending of the verb or indirect object pronoun before the direct object pronoun affected.

Portuguese examples:

Tu mo dizes. (me + o)

Di-mo. (diz + me + o)

Tu não lho queres dizer. (lhe + o)

Tu não queres dizer-lho. (dizer + lhe + o)

If the verb or pronoun that precedes direct object pronouns o, a, os, as ends in the consonants -s, -z, or -r, the final consonant drops and an -l- is inserted before the verb: faz + o fá-lo, fazer + o fazê-lo, fazemos + o fazemo-lo.

Tu não queres dizê-lo. (dizer + o)

If the preceding verb ends in a nasal -ão or -m, the nasal consonant -n- is inserted before the direct object o, a, os, as: fazem + o > fazem-no, dão + os > dão-nos.

Dizem-no. (dizem + o)

The following indirect + direct object pronoun combinations are contracted in Portuguese.

lhe + o, a, os, as > lho, lha, lhos, lhas

me + o, a, os, as > mo, ma, mos, mas

te + o, a, os, as > to, ta, tos, tas

nos + o, a, os, as > no-lo, etc.

vos + o, a, os, as > vo-lo, etc.

2. Possessive pronouns: Portuguese has no unstressed form of possessive adjective distinct from its possessive pronouns.

<u>Spanish</u>		<u>Portuguese</u>
<u>adj.</u>	<u>pronoun</u>	<u>adjective/pronoun</u>
mi	mío, mia	meu, minha

mi(s)	mío(s), mía(s)	meu(s), minha(s)
tu(s)	tuyo(s), tuya(s)	teu(s), tua(s)
su(s)	suyo(s), suya(s)	seu(s), sua(s)

3. Interrogative pronoun: Spanish plural quiénes has no equivalent in Portuguese, where quem is invariable.

- C. Certain combinations of preposition + determiner, pronoun, or adverb of location are contracted.

em, de, a, por with the definite article: no(s), na(s), do(s), da(s), ao(s), a(s), pelo, pela, etc.

em, de with the indefinite article: num(a), dum(a).

em, de with the demonstrative articles: nesta(s), nessa(s), daquele(s), etc.

a with aquele, etc.: àquele.

em, de with third person pronouns ele, ela, eles, elas: nele(s), dele(s), etc.

em, de with outro, etc.: noutro(s), doutro(s).

de with aquí, ali, aí: daquí, dali, dai.

D. Determiners

1. Demonstratives. Masculine plural demonstrative adjectives end in -os in Spanish, -es in Portuguese.

<u>Spanish</u>	<u>Portuguese</u>
estos	estes
esos	esses
aquellos	aqueles

E. Plural formation

Spanish has only two rules for plural formation:

1. Add -s to words ending in unstressed vowels.
2. Add -es to final consonants and stressed vowels.

(If the final consonant is -z, change it to c before adding the -es).

Portuguese basic rules are slightly different:

1. Add -s to words ending in vowels. novo - novos
2. Add -es to words ending in consonants, cruz - cruzes
except -l, -m and -s (unstressed) and certain nasal endings.
The exceptions are illustrated below:

<u>singular ending</u>		<u>plural ending</u>
-al	geral	-ais gerais
-el	papel	-eis papéis
-om	bom	-ons bons
-is	lápiz	-is lápis
-il	barril	-is barris
-il	fácil	-eis fáceis
-ol	sol	-ois sóis
-ul	azul	-uis azuis
-ao	mão	-ãos mãos
		-ães pães
		-ões sermões

III. SYNTAX

A. Questions

1. In yes/no questions, Spanish can use either inverted or normal word order. Portuguese uses normal word order, optionally preceded by an interrogative marker like será que or é que.

<u>Spanish</u>	<u>Portuguese</u>
¿Ella habla inglés?	Ela fala inglês?
¿Habla ella inglés?	Será que ela fala inglês?

2. In question-word questions, Spanish favors the word order question-word plus verb plus subject, while Portuguese usually has question-word plus subject plus verb, with the option of inserting the interrogative marker é que between the question-word and the rest of the sentence. Nevertheless, the question-word--verb--subject word order of Spanish always remains as a possibility in Portuguese.

Spanish

¿Donde está Pablo?

Portuguese

Onde Paulo está?

Onde é que Paulo está?

Onde está Paulo?

B. Object pronouns

The word order of object pronouns in the two languages is one of the major sources of conflict for the learner and deserves careful treatment. These are the main points.

1. Spanish can always begin a sentence with an object pronoun, while Portuguese cannot.

Spanish

Lo vi.

Le dieran el libro.

Portuguese

Vi-o.

Deram-lhe o livro.

(Richman 1965, 217).

2. When the sentence starts with a noun subject, Portuguese can put the object pronouns either before or after the verb, although Brazilian Portuguese prefers putting them before. Spanish must put them before.

Spanish

Pablo le dió un libro.

Portuguese

Paulo lhe deu um livro.

Paulo deu-lhe um livro.

(Ulsh 1971, 87).

3. In Portuguese negative expressions, such as ninguém or não or conjunctions like que, porque or quando at the beginning of a clause 'attract' the object pronoun to the position in front of the verb (Beardsley 1953, 422).

e.g. Não quis que o fizesse,

Parecia que ninguém lho tinha dito.

4. Portuguese has more freedom of placement of the object pronoun with a main verb plus infinitive combination, a form of estar plus a present participle and a future or conditional tense verb than does Spanish.

a. With a main verb plus infinitive, Spanish can put the object pronoun before the main verb or after the infinitive. Portuguese can also have it between the main verb and the infinitive:

Spanish

Lola puede decirme eso.
Lola me puede decir eso.

Portuguese

Lola pode dizer-me isso.
Lola me pode dizer isso.
Lola pode me dizer isso.

(Beardsley 1953; Ullsh 1971, 58).

b. A similar pattern exists with progressive tenses formed with estar plus the present participle:

Spanish

Juan está levatándose.
Juan se está levantando.

Portuguese

João está levantándose..
João se está levantando.
João está-se levantando.

c. In Portuguese, conditional and future endings are split off from the verb stem and an object pronoun inserted between them, whenever the object pronoun is not attracted to the position in front of the verb. The pronoun never follows a future or conditional verb. The -r of the infinitive becomes an -l-. cf. (III.B.1.)

Spanish

Lo dejaré solo.

Portuguese

Deixá-lo-ei-sòzinho.

C. Contrasts in use of some prepositions

1. Personal a. Spanish uses what is called the personal a before a

noun referring to a human direct object. Portuguese does not.

Spanish

Portuguese

Veo a Juan.

Vejo o João.

Veo al médico.

Vejo o médico.

Note the Portuguese use of the definite article before a proper noun.

(Richman 1965, 219).

2. Spanish uses ir plus a plus the infinitive to form an alternate future tense, while Portuguese uses a form of ir, but without the a.

Spanish

Portuguese

Voy a dormir.

Vou dormir.

3. Spanish uses an indirect object construction with gustar while Portuguese uses a subject pronoun and de plus the infinitive or noun.

Spanish

Portuguese

Me gusta cantar.

Eu gosto de cantar.

(Richman 1965, 223).

D. Main verb + gerund/infinitive constructions

1. In Spanish and in Brazilian Portuguese, the progressive tenses are formed using estar as the auxiliary plus a present participle. In European Portuguese an alternate progressive exists, with a form of estar plus a plus infinitive.

Spanish

Brazilian Portuguese

E. Portuguese

Estoy durmiendo.

Estou dormindo.

Estou dormindo.

Estou a dormir.

(Richman 1965, 224).

Portuguese can use the infinitive in similar constructions such as: Passou o tempo a cantar.

2. Both Spanish and Portuguese can use a subordinate gerund to modify an object noun or pronoun, but only Portuguese can use a plus infinitive for the same function.

Spanish

La encontré en casa llorando.

(Richman 1965, 225)

Portuguese

Encontrei-a em casa chorando.

Encontrei-a em casa a chorar.

E. The Portuguese future subjunctive

The future subjunctive of Portuguese is used to refer to future time after temporal conjunctions like quando, logo que, assim que, and depois que, where Spanish would use the present subjunctive.

Spanish

Te lo diré encuan-to vuelvas.

Tan pronto como reciba el dinero, te pagaré.

Portuguese

Dir-to-ei logo que voltares.

Assim que receber dinheiro, pagar-te-ei.

The Portuguese future subjunctive is also used after se 'if' when the reference is to future time, where Spanish uses the present subjunctive.

Spanish

Si tengo tiempo, iré contigo.

(Ulsh 1971, 51-2).

Portuguese

Se tiver tempo, irei contigo.

F. The Portuguese personal infinitive

The personal infinitive of Portuguese has no equivalent in Spanish. It is used like a Spanish subjunctive in certain sentence structures:

1. After impersonal expressions like É melhor, É difícil.

Spanish

Es posible que tu no vengas.

cf. Spanish 'Te es posible no venir'.

Portuguese

É possível tu não vires.

2. After verbs of requesting and telling with para.

Spanish

Portuguese

Juan pide que le ayudemos. João pede para ajudarmos-lhe.

3. After certain Portuguese prepositions used in a way that makes them equivalent to Spanish conjunctions that govern the subjunctive, prepositions like sem, até, antes de, para.

Spanish

Portuguese

Salieron sin decir nada.

Sairam sem dizerem nada.

Gritó antes de que lo
pudiéramos calmar.

Gritou antes de podermos
acalmá-lo.

No conseguirás nada hasta
que aprendas su idioma.

Não conseguirás nada até
aprenderes a sua língua.

The subjunctive after que remains a viable alternative in Portuguese for any of the constructions with the personal infinitive:

Sairam sem que dissessem nada.

Não conseguirás nada até que aprendas a sua língua.

(Ulsh 1971, 52-56).

G. Other syntactic contrasts

1. Spanish demasiado always comes before the adjective or adverb it modifies; Portuguese demaís comes after it.

Habla demasiado rápido.

Fala depressa demais.

(Richman 1965, 218).

2. The preposition entre takes a subject pronoun in Spanish and prepositional object pronoun in Portuguese.

Spanish

Portuguese

Entre tú y yo

Entre mim e ti

(Richman 1965, 221).

3. Portuguese uses the article in front of possessive adjectives.

Spanish does not.

Spanish

mi libro

Portuguese

o meu livro

(Ulsh 1971, 63).

IV. USAGE

Under this heading are grouped notes about ways in which grammatical structures in the two languages are used, especially ways which are idiosyncratic to one language and therefore potentially confusing to speakers of the other.

A. Pronouns of address

1. Subject pronouns. The use of tu, vós and the corresponding singular and plural verb forms is less common in Brazil than is the use of você and vocês. Spanish speakers experience difficulty with the Portuguese terms of address because they assume that você is formal, like Spanish Usted, and that o senhor, a senhora -- the equivalents of Spanish Usted--refer to some third person, not to the person being addressed (Tarquinio 1977, 82).

Colloquially, tu is occasionally used in Brazil, often with the third person singular verb.

Tu faz isto.

'You do this.'

Tu diz aquilo.

'You say that.'

B. Object pronouns and their paraphrases

1. "The use of the object pronouns o, os, a, as is gradually disappearing not only in daily conversation but in informal writing as well." (Tarquinio 1977, 85).

2. Direct object pronouns are usually omitted in Portuguese:

a. in answers to yes/no questions. (cf. section IV.D.)

Ouviste o que te disse? Ouvi.

b. when the direct object is inanimate. (Ulsh 1971, 61).

C. Uses of the article

1. In telling time, Spanish uses that article before the hour, Portuguese doesn't.

Spanish

Es la una.

Son las tres.

Portuguese

É uma hora.

São três horas.

2. Spanish uses the article to introduce days of the month, while Portuguese uses the Preposition em.

Spanish

el cinco de junio

Portuguese

em cinco de junho

3. In Portuguese the definite article may be used with proper nouns and with possessive adjectives.

Spanish

Juan no quiso contestarle.

Ayer vi a Marie en la calle.

Mi casa es más grande que la tuya.

Portuguese

O João não qui responder-lhe.

Ontem vi a Maria na rua.

A minha casa é maior que a tua.

D. Answers to yes/no questions

Portuguese prefers to answer yes/no questions with an appropriate form of the question verb by itself, or followed by sim, while Spanish often uses si plus any appropriate object pronoun plus the verb.

Spanish

¿Habla Usted español?

Sí, lo hablo.

Portuguese

Você fala português?

Falo (sim.)

In case of a negative answer, Portuguese can optionally follow the verb with another não.

Spanish

No, no lo hablo.

Portuguese

Não, não falo (não).

Falo não (optional):

(Ulsh 1971, 32-34).

E. Tense uses

1. Spanish uses the conditional or the imperfect subjunctive clause of a contrary-to-fact conditional sentence. Portuguese also uses the conditional, but it may opt for the imperfect indicative, not the imperfect subjunctive. (Richman 1965, 226).

Spanish

Si quisiera, se lo daría.

Si quisiera, se lo diera.

Portuguese

Si quisesse, dava-lho.

Si quisesse, dar-lho-ia.

2. The present perfect of Portuguese is restricted to use referring to recent habitual action, so the preterite is normally used as the equivalent of both the Spanish preterite and present perfect. (Ulsh 1971, 47-8).

Spanish

Lo he visto ayer.

Lo ví ayer.

Portuguese

Vi-o ontem.

But note: Tenho-o visto muito
nestes últimos meses.

'I have seen him many times
in recent months.'

'I have been seeing him a lot
in recent months.'

F. Ser/estar

Spanish uses estar versus Portuguese estar/ser/ficar for expressions of locations. Ser and ficar are used for permanent location.

Spanish

El niño está en el centro.

El banco está en el centro.

Portuguese

O menino está no centro.

O banco é no centro.

O banco fica no centro.

(Ulsh 1971, 50-1).

V. Lexicon

There are three types of lexical contrasts which cause problems for speakers of one of the two languages learning the other.

1. Predictable spelling or pronunciation divergences covered in section II.
2. False cognates listed below in III. 1.
3. Words which are neither recognizable similar nor false cognates. Richman 1969 lists 549 frequent Portuguese words with no equivalent in Spanish and 262 common Spanish words with no equivalent in Portuguese (pp. 35-50).

A. False cognates

Many words in Spanish and Portuguese appear to be cognates but have different meanings. In some cases these words are historical cognates but their meanings have evolved differently over the course of time. In other cases, their resemblance is deceptive since, as they have never been related, from the point of view of the learner, it would make no difference. Each of the false cognates (false friends, heterosemánticos) is a barrier to understanding and a possible source of confusion for the speaker of the other language.

Below is a list of the most bothersome false friends between Spanish and Portuguese, drawn up by selecting the most clearcut cases listed in Richman 1965, Ulsh 1971, Arriola 1973, Tarquinio 1977, Nesnick 1945, Schmitz 1970, Becker 1953, and Silver 1948, as well as our own observations.

The symbol -- is used to signal the Portuguese translation equivalent of the Spanish word given in the first column.

<u>Spanish</u>	<u>Portuguese</u>
abrumar 'to oppress, crush, annoy	abrumar 'to fog over, darken' -- oprimir
aceite 'oil'	aceite 'accept!' (command form of aceitar) -- azeite
acordar 'to remember'	acordar 'to awake' -- lembrar
afuera 'outside'	afora 'except, besides' -- fora
amago 'threat, symptom' amago 'nausea, loathing'	âмага 'core, essence' -- ameaça
anteojos 'glasses, binoculars'	anteolhos 'blinkers' -- óculos
apellido 'family name'	apelido 'nickname' -- sobrenome

Spanish

apenas 'hardly'

ascender 'to ascend'

aula (m.) 'classroom'

balcon 'balcony'

barata 'cheap' (f.)
cf. Sp. cucaracha

basura 'garbage'
cf. escoba, escova

bermejo 'bright red'
cf. rojo, roxo

billón 'one million million'

borracha 'drunk' (f.)

brincar 'to spring, jump'

buscar 'to look for'

cachorro 'pup' 'cub'

cadera 'hip'

cáliz 'chalice'

camarero 'waiter'

camarote 'stateroom'
cf. palco

Portuguese

apenas 'only'
-- quase

acender 'to light a light
or a cigarette'
-- ascender

aula (f.) 'class'
-- sala de aula

balcão 'store counter'
-- sacada

barata 'cockroach'
-- barata (also f. of
barato 'cheap')

vassoura 'broom'
-- lixo

vermelho 'red'
-- escarlata

bilhão 'one thousand million'
-- trilhão

borracha 'rubber'
-- bêbeda

brincar 'to play'
-- pular

buscar 'to get, bring'
-- procurar

cachorro 'dog'
-- cachorrinho

cadeira 'chair'
-- quadris

cálice 'wine glass'
-- calix de igreja

camareiro 'room servant'
-- garçom

camarote 'theater box'
-- câmara

Spanish

candelero 'candlestick'

cena 'supper'

cigarro 'cigar'

cobra 'cobra'

contento 'satisfied'

contestar 'to answer'

crianza 'manners, upbringing'

criatura 'infant, child'

cuarto 'room'
(may be bedroom)
cf. Sp. habitación, alcoba

cuchillo 'knife'

cuja 'bedstead'

desarrollar 'to develop'

desollar 'to shear' (sheep)

desquite 'compensation, revenge'

distinto 'different'

doce 'twelve'
cf. Sp. dulce

donde 'where'

Portuguese

candeeiro 'lamp'
-- castiçal

cena 'scene'
-- janta

cigarro 'cigarette'
-- charuto

cobra 'any snake, cobra'

contente 'happy'
-- satisfeito

contestar 'to contest, dispute'
-- responder

criança 'a young child'
-- educação

criatura 'creature'
-- criança

quarto 'bedroom'
-- peça

cutelo 'chopping, paring knife'
-- faca

coxa 'thigh'
-- armação de cama

desarrolhar 'to uncork'
-- desenvolver

desollar 'to disbud' (a plant)
-- tosquiar

desquite 'divorce, separation'
-- desforra

distinto 'distinguished'
-- diferente

doce 'sweet'
-- doze

donde 'from where'
-- onde

Spanish

embarazo 'pregnancy'

empezar 'to begin'

enderezar 'to straighten out'

enfadar 'to anger'

enojar 'to anger'

escoba 'broom'
cf. basura

escritorio 'desk'

espalda 'back'

esposar 'to handcuff'

esquisito 'exquisite'

estafar 'to swindle'

expediente 'certificate, papers
pertaining to a business, brief'

fecha 'date'

flaco 'thin'

gallo 'rooster'

guante 'glove'

habitación 'bedroom'

Portuguese

embaraço 'embarrassment'
-- gravidez

empeçar 'to impede, hinder
entangle'
-- começar

endereçar 'to address a letter'
-- endireitar

enfadar 'to bore, tire'
-- aborrecer

enojar 'to nauseate'

escova 'brush'
-- vassoura

escritório 'office'
-- escrevaninha

espádua 'shoulder blade'
-- costas

esposar 'to marry'

esquisito 'rare, unusual,
weird'
-- requintado

estafar 'to tire, bore'
-- enganar

expediente 'means to an end,
device, recourse'
-- contrato, certificado, resumo

fecha 'closes'
-- data

fraco 'weak'
-- magro

galho 'branch, twig'
-- galo

guante 'iron glove'
-- luva

habitação 'dwelling'
-- quarto, alcova

Spanish

huella 'tread, footprint'

jornal 'salary'
cf. Sp. diario

ladrillo 'brick'

largo 'long'

lio 'involvement'

mala 'ill, bad' (f.)

molestar 'to inconvenience'

mono 'monkey, cute'

mozo 'waiter'

mueca 'grimace'

naípe 'card'

niño 'child'

oficina 'workshop, office'

palco 'theater box'

palos 'suits' (in cards)

parvo 'small, little'

pelo 'human hair'

Portuguese

fula 'haste, crowd'
-- pegada

jornal 'newspaper'
-- diária

ladrilho 'glazed tile'
also teijolo

largo 'wide'
-- comprido

lio 'bundle'
-- complicação

mala 'trunk' (luggage)
-- doente, mau

molestar 'to molest'
-- incomodar

mono 'monkey, ugly stupid fellow'
-- bonitinho

moço 'young fellow'
-- garçom

moca 'joke, coffee, cudgel'
-- careta

naípe 'suit of cards'
-- carta

ninho 'nest'
-- menino, criança

oficina 'workshop'
-- despacho, escritório

palco 'theater stage'
-- camarote

páus 'clubs' (in cards)
-- naipes

parvo 'stupid'
-- pequeno

pelo 'animal hair'
-- cabelo

Spanish

pepita 'pip, seed of fruit'

podre 'pus'

polvo 'dust'

poso 'rest, sediment'

pronto 'quickly'

puesto que 'since, because'

quitar 'to remove'

rato 'a while'

reparar 'to repair'

rodilla 'knee'

rojo 'red'
cf. bermejo

rubio 'blond'

ruido 'noise' (in general)

salsa 'sauce'

silla 'chair, saddle'

sobremesa (f.) 'conversation
after a meal'

Portuguese

pepita 'nugget'
-- semente

podre 'rotten part, blemish,
defect'
-- pus

polva 'octopus'
-- pó

pouso 'resting place, perch,
landing field'
-- repouso

pronto 'ready'
also 'hello' on telephone
-- rápido, depressa

posto que 'although'
-- desde que

quitar 'to avoid'
-- tirar

rato 'rat'
-- um pouco (Espera um pouco.)

reparar 'to notice'
-- consertar

rodela 'kneecap'
-- joelho

roxo 'purple'
-- vermelho

ruivo 'redhead'
--louro

ruido 'murmur, distant sound'
-- som

salsa 'parsley'
-- molho

sela 'saddle'
-- cadeira

sobremesa (m.) 'dessert'
-- conversação à mesa

Spanish

sobrenombre 'nickname'

sótano 'basement'

taza 'cup'

tirar 'to pull, throw,
throw away'

todavía 'still, yet'

toro 'bull'

torpe 'dull, stupid, clumsy'

traer 'to bring'

turma 'testicle'

vaso 'drinking glass'

venta 'sail'

Portuguese

sobrenome 'family name'
-- apelido

sotão 'attic'
-- rés-de-chão, pavimento

taça 'goblet'
-- xícara

tirar 'to take out'
-- atirar

todavia 'however'
-- ainda

toro 'trunk of a tree'
-- touro

torpe 'ignoble'
-- bobo

trair 'to betray'
-- trazer

turma 'gang, crowd, squad'
-- testículo

vaso 'large vase, toilet bowl'
-- copo

venta 'nostril' (of an animal)
-- vela

B. Gender Contrasts

Resnick (1952) and Ulsh (1971, 64) contain lists of cognates with different genders in the two languages.

Below is a conflation of the two lists:

Spanish

árbol m.

arte m.

borde m.

color m.

costumbre m.

Portuguese

árvore f.

arte f.

borda f.

côr f.

costume f.

Spanish

cumbre m.
dolor m.
equipo m.
frente m.
labor m.
leche f.
lumbre f.
miel f.
muelle m.
nariz f.
orden m
orden f. (religious order)
origen m.
partido m.
pesadilla f.
protesta f.
puente m.
rata f. (rat)
retrete m.
sal f.
sangre f.
señal f.
sonrisa f.

Portuguese

cume f.
dor f.
equipe f.
frente f.
labor m.
leite m.
lume m.
mel m.
mola f.
nariz m.
ordem f.

origem f.
partida f. (game)
pesadelo m.
protesto m.
ponte f.
rato m.
retrete f.
sal m.
sangue m.
sinal m.
sorriso m.

Spanish words ending in the common suffix -aje are masculine, their
Portuguese cognates ending in -agem are feminine.

personaje m.
homenaje m.

personagem f.
homenagem f.

C. Recognition of cognates

Estimates of the percentage of cognates between Spanish and Portuguese range from 85% (Ulsh 1971, x) to 96% (Richman 1965, 35), but only 60% are identical cognates in either spelling or pronunciation (Richman 1965, 1949), so one of the tasks the learner must master is the ability to identify cognates in the two languages.

1. Spelling conventions. Sometimes the spelling conventions of the new language mask a word which would be perfectly comprehensible if it could be heard. Among the spelling conventions that must be mastered are the following, (Richman 1965, 151):

<u>Spanish</u>	<u>Portuguese</u>
b	v (sometimes)
ñ	nh
ll	lh
s (intervocalic)	ss
cu	qu
ey	ei
o	ou
z (before <u>a, o, u</u>)	ç

2. Sound symbol interferences. Certain letters of the Roman alphabet are given different phonetic values in Spanish and in Portuguese, leading to problems in reading aloud and in word recognition for the learner. Some of these sound/symbol interferences make words which are spelled alike have a different pronunciation, thus compounding problems with oral recognition.

<u>Letter</u>	<u>Spanish value</u>	<u>Portuguese value</u>
a	/a/	/g/ in unaccented syllables
c	/θ/ in Castilian	/s/

<u>Letter</u>	<u>Spanish value</u>	<u>Portuguese values</u>
ch	/c/	/s/
e	/e/	/i/ in unaccented syllables
g	/x/ before <u>e, i</u>	/z/ before <u>e, i</u>
j	/x/ "	/z/ "
l	/l/ everywhere	/w/ at the end of a syllable
m	/m/	nasalization on vowel at end of syllable
n	/n/	" "
o	/o/	/u/ in unaccented syllables
qu	/k/	/k/ or /kw/
rr	/rr/ trill	/x/, /R/ dialect variations
s	/s/ between vowels	/z/ between vowels
u	/u/	/U/ before <u>l</u>
v	/b/	/v/
x	/ks/ /x/ in <u>Mexico</u>	/ks/, /s/, /s/, /z/
z	/θ/ in Castilian /s/ other dialects	/z/

3. Recognition of cognate patterns. In order to recognize the many cognates between Spanish and Portuguese, the learner must not only master the spelling conventions of the two previous sections, he must also be able to grasp the spelling and pronunciation patterns which hold between cognates in the two languages.

This section is organized from the point of view of spelling, for the student mainly concerned with recognizing new words in reading. The student must be able to correlate spelling and pronunciation patterns in order to be able to understand new words as they are heard. Spanish and Portuguese differ in their pronunciation and spelling of these cognates because they developed differently from their common ancestor, the Romance or

spoken Latin of the Iberian peninsula. For more on the historical development, see Richman 1965, 163 et seq.; or sources such as Entwistle 1942, Elcock 1960, Williams 1962.

a. One set of pronunciation changes accounts for differences of pronunciation of the sibilants (s -like sounds) in both languages. Spanish and Portuguese shared a set of sounds spelled and pronounced like this in the Medieval Periods:

<u>Spelling</u>	<u>Sound</u>
c, ç	/ts/
<u>z</u>	/dz/
<u>ss</u>	/š/ The mark ^ means here with the tongue curled back as in Castilian.
<u>s</u>	/ž/ A z-sound with the same tongue curl.
<u>x</u> in Spanish <u>ch</u> in Portuguese	/s/
<u>j</u> , <u>g</u>	/z/

This set of sounds evolved in different directions in the two languages, as follows:

<u>Portuguese</u>	<u>Modern</u>	<u>Medieval Spanish and Portuguese</u>	<u>Castilian</u>	<u>South American</u>	<u>Spanish Spelling</u>
c, ç	/s/	/ts/	/θ/	/s/	c, z
z	/z/	/dz/	/θ/	/s/	c, z
ss	/s/	/s/	/š/	/s/	s
s	/z/	/z/	/š/	/s/	s
ch	/š/	/š/	/x/	/x/	g, j
j, g	/ž/	/ž/	/x/	/x/	g, j

(Richman 1965, 163)

b. Some other frequent patterns of correspondence between the two languages are:

<u>Spanish</u>		<u>Portuguese</u>	
e	madera	ei	madeira
ie	siete	e	sete
ue	nueve	o	nove
ct	acto	t	ato
h	hormiga	f	formiga
j	mujer	lh	mulher
ll	ella	l	ela
ll	llorar	ch	chorar
mn	alumnos	n	alunos
ch	noche	it	noite
io	dios	eu	deus

c. Sometimes Spanish d, l, or n between two vowels disappear in Portuguese:

<u>Spanish</u>	<u>Portuguese</u>
grado	grau
salir	sair
luna	lua

This can be accompanied by the disappearance of a vowel as well.

color	cor
tener	ter

Or, in the case of a disappearing n, the resulting vowel or diphthong:

mano	mão
sana	sa
limones	limões

After p, b, c, g, and f and before a vowel Spanish l tends to be the equivalent of Portuguese r:

<u>Spanish</u>	<u>Portuguese</u>
placer	prazer
blanco	branco
iglesia	igreja
flaco	fraco

Partial patterns of correspondence.

There are other patterns of correspondence between words in two languages which, if not so frequent or so regular, occur often enough to be recognizable. Examples of this include:

<u>Spanish</u>	<u>Portuguese</u>
s beso	j beijo
n naranja	l laranja

or the absence of i in Portuguese words when it appears in Spanish after a consonant and before a vowel:

<u>Spanish</u>	<u>Portuguese</u>
bestia	besta
limpiar	limpar
licencia	licença

or metathesis (transposition) as in Spanish ri and Portuguese ir or Spanish VCIV and Portuguese VICV:

<u>Spanish</u>	<u>Portuguese</u>
rabia	raiva
feria	feira
novio	noivo

4. Equivalent word endings in the two languages:

Spanish

-an pasan, dan, razón

-ble amable

-ción sección

-dad, -tad libertad,
gratitud

-umbre servidumbre,
costumbre

-tud, aptitud, longitud

Portuguese

-am, ao passam, dao, razao

-vel amavel

-ção seção

-dade, -dão liberdade, gratidão

-ume, -ão servidão, costume

-tude or -dão aptidão, longitude

Most of the discussion of recognition patterns in cognates is based on Ulsh 1971, especially 2-30 and 65-80, and on Richman 1965, particularly 116-132, 137-141, and 180-183.

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